

# **Police release images of stabbing suspect**

Authorities are still searching for the man who attacked individual at Git N Go

### By Christopher Braunschweig Newton News

The police department released images on Oct. 3 of the suspect involved in a stabbing incident on Sept. 29 at the Git N Go gas station, 801 First Ave. W., in Newton. As of the time of this article's publication, the suspect was not yet been identified by authorities.

Four days before the de-

partment released the images captured through security camera footage at the gas station — the suspect stabbed a male victim in the abdomen, who was later transported to the hospital for medical treatment for non-life threatening injuries.

Officers said the suspect left the scene in a gray Sedan but did not have any other description of the assailant, other than

he was a male. The police have broadened the description to a white male with dark hair, who is between ages 18 and 35. Newton police said the suspect is presumed to be armed.

Anyone with information about the case is encouraged to contact Newton Police Department at 641-792-1547 or Jasper County Crime Stoppers at 641-792-8362. The investigation is ongoing.



Footage released by the Newton Police Department

# Newton man critical of city and police arrested at council meeting



Christopher Braunschweig/Newton News

Screenshots of a video show Noah Petersen, 22, being arrested by Newton Police Chief Rob Burdess on Oct. 3 in the council chambers of city hall. Petersen was arrested for disorderly conduct after speaking critically of the city government and local police department.

The 22-year-old charged with disorderly conduct says his

## Lack of signage is causing problems at admin building

Maintenance wants to add new signage to help driver's license/motor vehicle customers

> By Christopher Braunschweig Newton News

Supervisors tabled a request to add a new sign to the east entrance of the county administration building, which maintenance director Adam Sparks said is needed because staff at juvenile probation are frequently redirecting visitors who entered the wrong door to access the treasurer's office services.

Currently, the administration building has three entrances: the west entrance, the north entrance and the east entrance. Sparks said there are signs on only two of the three entrances, which he lamented was not caught earlier. Regardless, not having proper signage is causing some issues. "Let's just say 90 percent of the people that are coming into this building are looking for the (department of transportation/motor vehicles) of some sort," Sparks said to the board of supervisors on Oct. 4. "The other 10 percent is going to all the other offices that are over there." Customers are entering the wrong side of the building to access the driver's license, motor vehicles and property tax services, which forces them to walk through the building and find their way to these locations. Even when they enter the wrong door, Sparks said there isn't enough signage to direct people. Of note, there are directories that tell people where to access certain departments. But some people cannot make sense of it. As a result, people are opening the first door they come across to ask the first person they see. Unfortunately, that first person that they see right now is a staff member from juvenile probation, Sparks said, who gets about 20 people a day asking her where the driver's license department is.

### rights were violated

#### By Christopher Braunschweig Newton News

A 22-year-old man from Newton, Iowa was criticizing the city government and the local police department during the citizen participation portion of the council meeting on Oct. 3 when we was cut off by the mayor, asked to leave and when he refused was arrested by the police chief for disorderly conduct.

ARREST | 2A

# **GRAND RE-OPENING**



Jamee A. Pierson Newton News

In a new location with double the space at 3021 First Ave. E., Theisen's celebrates its move up the hill with a ribbon cutting ceremony Oct. 5. Dozens of local business owners, city staff and community members were on hand to congratulate the business.

ADMIN | 2A

## League of Women Voters to hold candidate forum Oct. 20

### By Christopher Braunschweig Newton News

Whether candidates of one party choose to not participate, the League of Women Voters of Jasper County still plans to hold its annual candidate forum this month beginning at 6 p.m. Oct. 20 inside the Newton High School auditorium, 800 E. Fourth St. S. The public is invited to attend and ask questions.

The Jasper County Republican Party announced a few months ago that its candidates - Denny Carpenter, Rep. Jon Dunwell, Barb Kniff McCulla, Sen. Ken Rozenboom and Brandon Talsma — will not be participating in the forum, citing issues with the organization itself.

However, Democratic candidates Pam Olson, Bev Price and Erick Zehr,

LEAGUE | 3A

### **Democratic, Republican party** chairs organize joint forum Oct. 15

Saturday

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#### By Christopher Braunschweig Newton News

Leaders from both major parties in Jasper County have teamed up to coordinate a candidate forum, which may be the only way voters will see opposing viewpoints. The forum will be held at noon Oct. 15 at the Newton Community Theatre, 1701 S. Eighth Ave. E.

Organized by Republican party

chair Thad Nearmyer and Democratic party chair Michelle Smith, the forum will be split into statehouse candidates and supervisors candidates. Attendees of the forum may ask questions of candidates, which will be handled by a professor from Central College acting as moderator.

Smith is pleased the parties are able to come together and co-host the

### FORUM | 3A

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